Adair of Carrizal

The following story, written by W. A. Garnett, of Fairmont, formerly of this city, tells of his acquaintanceship with Lieutenant Adair, a relative of the dashing young lieutenant whose murder by treacherous Carranza troops at Carrizal is still unavenged. In connection with the article is a poem, "Adair of Carrizal," by Dean Collins, which was published in a late issue of the Army and Navy Journal.—THE EDITORS.

Adair of Carrizal

By Dean Collins

The following lines were read at the conclusion of a speech in the House of Representatives by the Honorable John J. Rogers, of Massachusetts—"American Arms to Mexico; A Chronology of Self-destruction."

I had thought our hearts would leap, Adair,
That our hands would clutch at the sword and gun;
I had thought that our spirit of old would flare
At the tale of the deed that you have done.
But silent we walk and silent you lie,
And "Peace" says the bishop, above your pall—
But the blood you shed is red, how red!
Red on the sands of Carrizal.

I had thought we would rise on the wings of fame;
That a river of swords would southward flow,
And voices of battle would cry your name,
As they cried the name of the Alamo.
But we mutter our prayers for the rest of your soul—
And how shall rest on your spirit fall
When we bow the head, while the blood you shed
Cries from the sands of Carrizal.

I had thought—but my thoughts were lies, Adair,
For my heart was not with that art imbued
That fashions a diplomatic snare
To throttle a nation's gratitude.
The statesmen build up the forms of peace,
Where words look large and lives look small,
While my hot cheeks flame with the blush of shame
For the cry, unanswered from Carrizal.

The funeral honors are done, Adair,
And under the earth your body lies;
Thrilling and sweet on the vibrant air
That last long wail of the bugle dies
Well was your duty done, Adair,
And duty to us alone may call;
And the blood you shed, how red, how red!
Cries like a bugle from Carrizal.

Garnett's Story

In the summer of 1872 I was serving in company K, Eighth United States infantry, and my regiment was serving on the Yellowstone river, guarding surveyors who were laying lines for the Northern Pacific railroad from the Missouri river to the mouth of the Powder river, which is a tributary of the Yellowstone. The Sioux Indians were opposed to the railroad going through their best hunting grounds and they fought us every day and worried us at night.

One day, while we were going through a narrow defile where the Yellowstone hugged the bluffs, the Indians opened fire on our wagon train—175 six-mule teams—and my company and a company of the Twenty-second infantry deployed as skirmishers and moved forward to climb the bluff and drive the Sioux back and hold them until our wagon train got out on the prairie again. The company from the Twenty-second was commanded by its first lieutenant whose name was Adair. He was shot just over the heart a moment after the bugle sounded 'Skirmishers—forward!" He died that night in great agony.

I was on guard that night and in walking my post I passed close enough to the tent in which the dying officer lay to hear his groans and I thought what a great pity that a lousy Sioux buck could snuff out such a life. A graduate of West Point, he was a handsome officer, more than six feet tall.

I believe he was a kinsman of "Adair of Carrizal"; his father or grandfather. Many of the officers of the regular army were born in the service.

Both these officers were victims of the government's long time policy of sending a company to do the work of a brigade—and the company did it, frequently.

JAPS WATCH U. S. BUILD GREAT FORT

Wily Gardeners Rent Blistered Land on Hill near New Fortifications.

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Sept. 30.—On Point Firmin, overlooking the harbor being commonly known as San Pedro, the United States government is constructing a powerful fort. The name of this fort is MacArthur, and the construction work is said to be the finest bit of engineering this coast has ever beheld.

Concrete foundations are being placed for the big guns. The tunnels and the massive bases for huge mortars have assumed definite shape. One part of the fort is now being put in readiness to receive the mountings for the defense it is designed to house.

This in itself is not an important piece of news, for Fort MacArthur has been under construction for some time. The news in which the people of southern California and the rest of the Pacific coast are most interested is not a report of the progress of work on this and the other forts, but the story of the "hill farm" which is close to Fort MacArthur. Investigation has shown this story to be true, and here it is:

Jap Farmers Rent Land.

When the government heeded southern California's demand for adequate protection of the harbor of Los Angeles, a site on Point Firmin was selected for the fort, the plans were drawn and emplacements for sixteen-inch guns were ordered. It was about this time that innocent-looking Japanese farmers made their appearance on Point Firmin. They began leasing land. The Sepulveda estate controls hundreds of acres of land in this vicinity.

The Japanese said they intended to go in for dry farming. They were willing to pay $15 per acre as a yearly rental for this bleak, black and broken land. The Sepulveda estate being willing, it was so arranged.

So the Japanese came and continued to come. They were bright-looking men and women, roughly clad, put possessed of more than average intelligence. They set to work and they worked diligently. Where the United States government employes worked eight hours the Japanese "farmers" spent sixteen hours in the field. Cultivation went on apace, and the Japanese gardens stretched themselves over acre after acre of the cracked and sun-baked hills. The harvest was meager, but the Japanese were never known to complain.

In the course of time the Japs' tomato vines, dead and dying, entwined their tentacles about the cactus plants growing in the soil of the United States military reservation. Distant but a few hundred feet American army officers discussed the plans of the fort. Crouching close to the ground the Japanese nourished their tomato plants. To all intents and purposes they were wholly disinterested. They were "dry farming."

Only a few hundred feet separate the workers. On one knoll are the serious and busy builders of one of Uncle Sam's newest coast defense fortifications. On another knoll are the suave and smiling husbandmen of the Orient. While one short shift works another watches.

The hill which the urbane Japanese are bent upon cultivating is the acme of desolation. It is wind-swept and cactus-infested and is utterly devoid of water. Dry and lifeless tomato vines bear mute testimony to the futility of farming.

The Japanese at once put up homes. They were little more than shacks, but a street was laid out in crude fashion and a part of the field was a field no longer. It had assumed the proportions of a village. One hundred and twenty-five Japanese make their homes in and around the village, which is in a direct line with the United States fortifications, now in the building. Moreover, the fort is less than half a mile distant. The construction towers, rising like huge elevators from the crest of the hills, are plainly visible from practically every house in the settlements. Not so very long ago visitors were allowed to come and go as they pleased on the military reservation. Venturesome Japanese climbed the hill, visited the shafts and looked down upon the handicraft of the American workmen.

No one paid any great amount of attention to the quiet and sun-browned Japanese. The American laborers regarded them as friendly farmers, and thought of them without suspicion, if they thought of them at all. Meanwhile the Japanese continued to harvest their lean crops and kept their own counsel.

But when Captain Sage came to Los Angeles from the Philippines certain changes were made at the fort. He let it become known that he was opposed to promiscuous visiting on the military reservation. Cameras were taboo and visitors must come supplied with the necessary passports.

Why Are They There?

Why are those bright-faced Japanese seeking to cultivate this desolate hill with such patience? It cannot be because of the abundance of the crops. Nor can it be due to the variety of the harvest. Aside from hay an an inferior quality of dried beans, little, if anything in the way of productive crops are being harvested by the plodding Japanese, but there they have the advantages of the valley lands and there is an abundance of water for irrigation purposes. On this hill there is no water, and the only thing to commend the Japanese gardens is their proximity to Uncle Sam's last word in coast defenses.

Japanese Problem in California.

The Japanese problem has given the people of California and the Pacific coast something to think of. It is said that there are between 75,000 and 100,000 in California, but they are debarred from New eZaland, Australia and Canada. When California's alien land law was up for consideration by the members of the state legislature feeling ran high and William Jennings Bryan made a special trip to Sacramento on behal fo fthe United States government. At that time it was reported from Tokio that the Japanese people were embittered toward Californians, and many of them openly demanded that Japan declare war on the United States.

It was for this reason, chief among others, that the people of southern California insisted that Congress authorize the construction of a powerful fort at Los Angeles harbor. tI is admitted, moreover that the new fortifications, when completed, will be all that could be desired, as coast defenses go, but in considering the fort as a fort it is necessary to look beyond the mere completion of the work and anticipate the use of the fort. It is interesting to note just what that hill would offer, in the way of a target for enemy ships, if the government engineers had completed their labors and the sixteen-inch guns and mortars were placed in commission today.

In the first place, as has been shown, the Japanese village is in direct line with the forts overlooking the harbor. If Japanese battleships hovering off Los Angeles harbor could find the range in no other way, it would be no trick at all for spies on shore to set fire to the tinderlike shacks of the Japanese village. Baled hay, piled high in village streets, would also furnish an excellent basis for a high bonfire if properly treated and soaked in oil. A battleship commander equipped with night glasses and possessed of average intelligence would hardly overlook so rare an opportunity, even though he had not been apprised of the presence of the spies.

But as a range finder for the enemy's guns this crude method pales into insignificance when it is compared with yet another and far more dangerous menace which lurks in the hills that house Fort MacArthur. This is a mammoth oil reservoir recently constructed by the General Petroleum Company. Its capacity is 500,000 barrels of oil, brought in by pipe lines from the Midway oil fields of Taft. This immense reservoir is sunk in the ground and is so very near the fort that a shell intended for the one might easily strike the other. Situated as it is, directly in the shadow of the coast fortifications, what a useful beacon of light this huge vat of oil would be were it to burst into a column of flame! Five hundred thousand barrels of oil, fired by a shell from the enemy's guns, illuminating the hills of San Pedro and exposing Fort MacArthur's position to the ships of the invaders! If the shells of the enemy failed to ignite the giant lamp there would yet remain the torch of the incendiary.

Unquestionably this thought did not occur to the engineers who drew the plans for Fort MacArthur, and doubtless it is likewise true that the officers of the General Petroleum Company have given the matter very little serious thought, but the condition exists nevertheless, and the studious "gardeners" are in a position to take copious notes from their vantage points on the hill.

Visitors are no longer welcome at Fort MacArthur, and the "farmers" and the sightseers must not set foot on the reservation proper. If one invades the reservation, even with the proper permission, one must not take a camera along. If he does it is confiscated and the plates are removed for examination. After the inspection the camera is returned to the owner. However, it is possible to visit the reservation surreptitiously, since there are no guards on duty, and gaze below upon the work that has been done. One glance will give one a comprehensive view of the interior, after which a watchman is likely to appear and warn the visitor that he is trespassing on forbidden ground. The visitor knows this quite well, unless he is blind; signs painted on a background of red convey a mute warning.

Just to what extent the Japanese "farmers" of California have been interested in the work of the United States army officers is, of course, purely problematical. The fact remains, however, that the Japanese are there. And they made their appearance on or about the date that the tentative location for the fort was decided upon. They have remained ever since ground was broken for the fortifications.

MEXICAN ELECTIONS DECREE CIRCULATED

Delegates to a New Constitution Making Congress Are to Be Chosen.

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 7.—The decree calling for the election of delegates to the constitutional assembly, which will meet in Queretaro December 1 to discuss and approve a new constitution for Mexico has been given the widest publicity throughout the republic. The decree was elegraphed in full to the governors of all the states in order to avoid delay in publication everywhere. In all garrison towns the proclamation was made public on its receipt by means of a military parade through the streets with troops and bands followed by the public reading of the decree. It also was prominently posted in public places and published in all available newspapers. The decree provides that state governors, presidents of municipalities and others in authority are not eligible for election as delegates to the congress. The first three sessions of the assembly will be governed by the rules of procedure formerly used by the chamber of deputies, the assembly itself making such amendments to those rules as conditions make advisable. The assembly will also pass on the credentials of the delegates and designate the duties of each.

The decree provides that the delegates may not be molested for opinions they express in carrying out the duties to which they are elected and they will not be subject to prosecution for ordinary misdemeanors, it being necessary to remove them from the office of delegates before they can be prosecuted under the civil statues. The charges of official misconduct which may be brought against the deputies will be judged by the assembly itself.

Those shall be considered eligible for election as deputies who are citizens of the state from which they seek election or have resided in the state six months or who were born in the state although they afterwards removed elsewhere. It is also provided those shall be eligible who were citizens of a state at the time of the "quartelazzo" (arrest and killing of Madero) but who afterwards demonstated by concrete acts that they supported the Constitutionalist cause.

The decree states that one more than fifty per cent of the delegates must be present in order to constitute a quorum. If when the first session is called there is not a majority present those present shall be empowered to seat the alternates of the absentees. If any delegate be absent three consecutive sessions without permission his alternate will be seated. The same will apply if he is absent five times in fifteen days. Alternates who do not attend will lose their pay. Delegates will receive sixty pesos a day and traveling expenses to and from Quertaro.

The following form of oath is provided: "The president of the assembly: 'Do you swear to fulfil loyally and patriotically the duties of deputy to the constitutional congress which office the people have conferred upon you, guarding in all things the re-establishment of the constitutional order of the nation in accord with the plan of Guadalupe of March 26, 1913, and the additions issued in Vera Crux December 12, 1914, and amended September 14, 1916?' " "The deputy: 'Yes, I swear.' " "The president: 'If you do not so act, the nation will demand it of you.' "

When the constitution is adopted by the assembly each delegate must sign it and swear to uphold its provisions at the last session of the assembly and when the new constitution is published all authorities and employes of the government civil and military will be compelled to swear to adhere to it.

WOMAN, 92, RAISES AND SELLS BALE OF COTTON

COMMERCE, Ga., Oct. 7.—Mrs. Sarah J. Gordon, 92 years of age, who lives in Banks county, near Commerce, brought to Commerce a bale of middling cotton weighing 595 pounds, which was sold.

Mrs. Gordon planted, hoed and picked, every pound of this cotton herself and has kept the same stored in her home in Banks county until it reached the price of fourteen cents, for which she was holding it.

Mrs. Gordon, notwithstanding her age is remarkably well preserved and is noted for her industry.

NOTICE TO VOTERS

PREPAREDNESS FOR VOTING
ARE YOU REGISTERED?

The registration for the coming election was made in April last. If you are not registered, attend to it promptly. APPLY IN PERSON to the County Court, at the courthouse, on MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, and see that your name is on the voting list.

Have You Moved into Another Precinct Since You Were Registered?

If so, apply at once at the office of the County Clerk for a transfer to the precinct in which you now live. Preserve your transfer carefully and present it to the election commissioners on election day.

ROY E. PARRISH, Chairman,
Republican County Committee.